

WEIRD

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VAMPIRE

TALES

THE DEAD
and
BURIED
EXPLODE
WITH
HORROR IN
the

SCREAMING
VAMPIRE
STRIKES

PLUS
THE MONSTER
A HEAD FULL
OF SNAKES

WEREWOLF

THE
BLOODY
CREATURES

AND
OTHER SLIMY
STORIES



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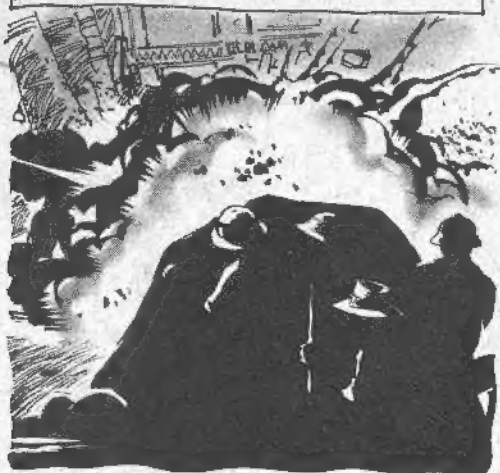
FOUR SAW THE
LEGENDARY FACE
OF UNUTTERABLE
DOOM--AND EACH
ONE MET A FATE
TOO HORRIBLE TO
DESCRIBE! BUT
ONE AMONG THEM
WAS THE TRUE
GHOUL FROM THE
BEYOND!



ALL OF US WERE
SCIENTISTS, HUGO
HOFF, RICHARD DARE,
AND I, JACK CROWL.
VIVIEN MADE A
CHARMING AND
VERY EFFICIENT
FOURTH! WE HAD
TRAVELED FOR
MONTHS INTO
IMPENETRABLE
JUNGLE... AND
NOW WE SAW IT



I THREW A GRENADE INTO THE
CLOSED CORRIDOR, ALLOWING
THEM TO ENTER THE TEMPLE...



LOOK! YOU'VE OPENED
UP SOME SORT OF
PASSAGE WAY
INSIDE!

CAREFUL, EVERYONE!
STAY CLOSE TO
EACH OTHER!



MOMENTS LATER...

CAN YOU
MAKE OUT
WHAT
IT IS?

I DON'T SEE
IT TOO CLEARLY
IT THIS GLOOM!



WIIIIEEEEEE!
LOOK! LOOK!



THE SIGHT OF THAT HORRIBLE,
MONSTROUS FACE FILLED ME
WITH A DREAD THAT FROZE
THE BLOOD IN MY VEINS!
SUDDENLY-- I WAS SLOWLY
BECOMING PARALYZED...

EEEEEE!
WE'RE TURNING
INTO STONE!

I'VE GOT
TO DESTROY!
THAT HEAD!





BACK TO WHATEVER
EVIL PLACE YOU
WERE SPAWNED
FROM!

AAAAEEEE! RICHARD IS
CHANGING! OH, HE'S
TURNING INTO THAT
HORRIBLE
CREATURE!

DON'T BE AFRAID, MORTAL!
LET ME TOUCH THAT
LOVELY PULSATING
NECK OF YOURS!
HA, HA, HA...



IT'S GOT VIV!
SHE'S BEING
CARRIED
INTO THE
JUNGLE!

HEAD FOR THE TEMPLE--
QUICK! THAT'S THE ONLY
PLACE IT WOULD TAKE
HER!

WE
FOLLOWED
IT INTO
THE
INNER-
CHAMBER
OF THE
RUINED
TEMPLE!
SUDDENLY
THE
CREATURE
TURNED
ON US...
READY
TO
KILL!!



WE HAVE WITNESSED
A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY!
RICHARD DARE IS
NO MORE!



HOW WE GOT BACK OUTSIDE, I'LL
NEVER KNOW! BUT LATER...

I'LL NEVER
FORGET THAT FACE--
NEVER! IT WAS
A NIGHTMARE!



THE HEAD OF
MEDUSA-- ANCIENT
LEGENDS SAID IT TURNED
ITS ONLOOKERS TO
STONE! HA, HA, HA,
HA HA...



ARRGGHH!

'KILL IT--
HURRY!

BANG!

OH,
DICK...

LET'S GET OUT
OF THIS PLACE!
FAST!



WE TRAVELED BACK TO THE COAST WITHIN TEN DAYS... TWO WEEKS LATER WE WERE BACK IN THE UNITED STATES SAFE AND SOUND...

ALL OF US HAD DECIDED NEVER TO MENTION RICHARD DARE'S TRUE FATE! THEN ONE DAY...

JACK--SOMETHING HORRIBLE HAS HAPPENED! IT'S HUGO! COME OVER RIGHT AWAY!

ALL RIGHT! AT ONCE!

VIV GAVE ME AN ADDRESS AT WHICH I WOULD MEET HER, BUT WHEN I SAW WHERE I WAS...

VIVIENE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHERE IS HUGO?

IN THERE, JACK! OOH--IT'S TERRIBLE! COME!...

INSANE ASYLUM

THERE WAS NOTHING TO DO-- ONE MORNING...

"FIENDISH CREATURE ROAMS CITY STREETS! NONE SAFE FROM MURDERING GHOUL!" NO! IT CAN'T BE! IT IT JUST CAN'T BE! I--I'VE GOT TO ACT FAST!

GOOD HEAVENS! WHAT? HOW?

BUT WHY HUGO AND NOT US? VIV... WE MUST BE NEXT!

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

THE MEDUSA GHOUL MUST HAVE KILLED HIM!

IDEA AFTER IDEA--WENT THROUGH MY MIND! I KNEW WHO THE GHOUL WAS! I COULD SEE THE ACTUAL EVENTS OF HOW THE CREATURE LAY IN WAIT FOR ITS VICTIMS AT NIGHT!

DO NOT RUN, PUNY ONE! YOU CANNOT ESCAPE THE MEDUSA! HA, HA, HA!

HELP! HELP! DON'T TOUCH ME! AIIIEEEE!



I RESOLVE TO FIND VIV THAT NIGHT... FOR THE GHOUL COULD BE HER, NO ONE ELSE! LATER, I FOUND HER NEAR THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY...



THE EVIL HORROR SPRANG AT ME, I SPRANG BACK AND GRABBED THE NEAREST THING AT HAND-- THE SHARP POINTED CROWBAR...



YOU FORGOT ONE THING-- THIS CROWBAR!

IT'S DEAD! AND I'M STILL ALIVE!-- GOT TO GET BACK HOME, GOT TO PULL MYSELF TOGETHER!



LATER...

WHO WILL EVER BELIEVE WHAT HAPPENED? THEY'LL NEVER FIND HER AGAIN! BUT WHY AM I SO WEAK-- SO-- SO VERY WEAK--?



MY FACE SEEMS TO BE GETTING NUMB! I-I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'VE EVER FELT SO BAD!



THEN IT SUDDENLY DAWNED UPON ME THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE TYPE OF MORTAL WHO CAN CHANGE BACK AND FORTH INTO A CREATURE AT WILL! NOW YOU UNDERSTAND?

NO! DON'T LOOK AT ME! MY STORY IS FINISHED! WHAT--? YOU WOULD STILL LIKE TO SEE MY FACE?



THEN GAZE UPON ME! FOR I AM THE **TRUE** GHOUL! THOSE OTHER THREE CHANGED INVOLUNTARILY-- BUT I-- HA-HA... I CAN LIVE **FOREVER!** COME CLOSER TO ME! JUST ONE LITTLE BITE ON YOUR THROAT! HA, HA, HA, HA AHA, HA!



THE
END

THE VAMPIRE LIVES!



PARCHED FOR THE LIQUID THAT WILL SUSTAIN IT'S FIENDISH LIFE FOR 25 YEARS! THE VAMPIRE OF THE VILLA DI PINI APPEARS IN THE MOONLIGHT-- IN ALL ITS HORRIFYING AWESOMENESS!

THE VILLA DI PINI HAS BEEN FOR SALE, AND ITS PRICE WAS LOW! TO SOME, THIS MAY HAVE SEEMED A BAD OMEN! BUT THE PASSION OF MRS. INA LORDE FOR SOUVENIR-COLLECTING SURPASSED ALL COMMON SENSE...

... AN ITALIAN VILLA THAT ONCE BELONGED TO THE DI PINT FAMILY? REALLY, MOTHER!

...AND WHY NOT? WE'LL TAKE THE VILLA, LUIGI!

BUT-- UH-- YOU DID NOT TELL YOUR DAUGHTER ABOUT THE MENACE!

UTTER NONSENSE! A VAMPIRE BURIED SOMEWHERE ON THE PREMISES! FOOLISH SUPERSTITION!

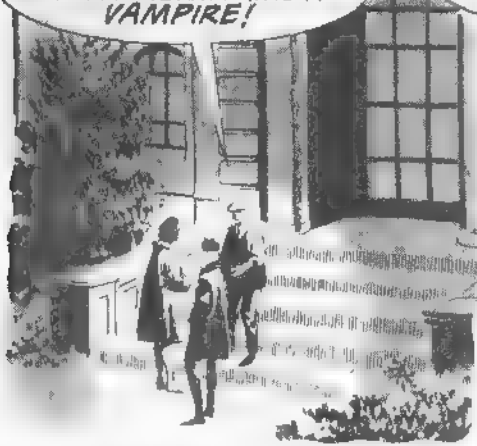


NO, SIGNORA! TH S VAMPIRE IS *REAL!* THE SERVANT IS SAID TO HAVE HIDDEN HIS BODY... AND IT WAS TH S SERVANT WHO BECAME THE FIRST VICTIM OF HIS MASTER, WHO HAD TURNED INTO A *VAMPIRE!*

AND NOW--ABOLT EVERY 25 YEARS--THE VAMPIRE STIRS FROM HIS HIDING PLACE AND SEEKS A FEW VICTIMS TO REPLENISH HIS STRENGTH!

YOU MEAN, THIS VAMPIRE IS CONCEALED SOMEWHERE IN THE VILLA, AND WE'LL BE TAKING IT WITH US TO AMERICA?

WE'RE TAKING THE VILLA, LUIGI! GO TO WORK AT ONCE!



A CABLEGRAM ARRIVES AT THE CLUB OF ROBERT KNOWLAND, YOUNG MILLIONAIRE...

SHIPPING AN ENT RE ITALIAN VILLA TO AMERICA?

IT'S NOT ELINOR S DOING, DOC! IT'S HER MOTHER! I KNOW ELINOR MARRIED ME FOR MY MONEY! BUT I LOVE HER, DOC!

...AND HER MOTHER DROVE HER HUSBAND INTO BANKRUPTCY AND DEATH, YET--

I KNOW ELINOR'S DOMINATED BY HER MOTHER-- BUT I'M TRUSTING IN ELINOR'S INNER LOVE FOR ME!



MEANWHILE, ACROSS THE SEA!

SORRY, SIGNORA! I CANNOT TAKE THE BOAT OUT, THE VAMPIRE MAY WALK TONIGHT!

WE CAN GO BOATING ON THE LAKE ANOTHER NIGHT, MOTHER!

NO! I'LL SHOW YOU MONEY IS MORE POWERFUL THAN SUPERSTITION!



T-TEN THOUSAND LIRE TO TAKE THE SIGNORA AND HER DAUGHTER BOATING? SURELY THE SIGNORA JESTS!

DOES THAT LOOK LIKE A JEST? WHO WILL TAKE IT?

WHAT DO YOU SAY NOW TO THE POWER OF MONEY?

SIGNORA, SOMEBODY WILL DIE FOR THAT TEN THOUSAND LIRE!



LATER...

THERE'S OUR VILLA!

SIGNORA, WE HOPE WHEN YOU TAKE THE VILLA TO AMERICA, THE VAMPIRE WILL GO WITH YOU!



THE BOAT DOCKED, AND--

ALFREDO, I LEFT MY SHAWL AT THE BOAT-DOCK! GO BACK AND GET IT! WE'LL WAIT FOR YOU HERE!

B-BUT, SIGNORA, IT IS ALMOST HALF A MILE THROUGH THE DARK WOODS!



AT LEAST LEND ME YOUR LANTERN... SIGNORA!

WHAT IS THERE TO BE AFRAID OF? HOOT OWLS? OFF WITH YOU FOOL!

WITH LEADEN FEET, ALFREDO CREEPS, TREMBLING AT THE SOUND OF HIS OWN HEAVY BREATHING...

FOR MANY YEARS THE VAMPIRE HAS LEFT THE PEOPLE OF OUR VILLAGE ALONE! NOW PERHAPS THIS VOYAGE TO AMERICA MAY AROUSE HIM ONCE MORE!





(GASP!) T-THE VAMPIRE!



EAAA!

THE IDIOT PROBABLY TRIPPED OVER HIS OWN SHADOW! LET'S GO BACK TO THE INN!



IT'S HORRIBLE!



PROBABLY SOME WILD ANIMAL ATTACKED HIM!

LATER...

FORGET THE KILLING, ELINOR! THINK ABOUT LIVING IN THIS BEAUTIFUL VILLA BACK HOME!

NOTHING ABOUT THIS VILLA IS BEAUTIFUL! IT'S REPULSIVE-- FRIGHTENING! I'M SORRY I EVER SAW IT!



AS THE VILLA ACHIEVES VIRTUAL REINCAR-NATION ON THE BANKS OF AN AMERICAN RIVER...

BUT IF YOU WERE AFRAID OF THIS VAMPIRE LEGEND, WHY DID YOU BUY THE HOUSE?



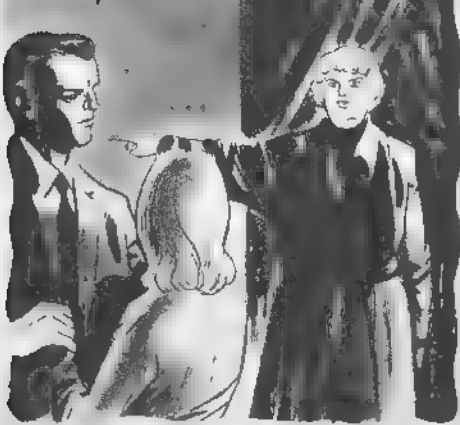
MOTHER INSISTED!

ELINOR, IF YOU COULD ONLY BREAK AWAY FROM YOUR MOTHER!

HOW DARE YOU TURN MY DAUGHTER AGAINST ME? GET OUT!

SHE HAS NO RIGHT TO MAKE ROBERT LEAVE! HE PAID FOR THIS VILLA!

I'M GOING TO WALK AROUND AND DRINK IN THIS INTOXICATING BEAUTY!



AND AS MRS. LORDE WALKS AND EXULTS, THE FULL MOON GROWS BRIGHTER AND BLOODIER!



AT THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH, A CRACK APPEARS IN THE STATUE! AN EVER WIDENING OPENING...



A HAIRY HAND, WITH LONG CLAW-LIKE NAILS COME FORTH...



AND THEN THE KIND OF FACE ONE SEES ONLY IN NIGHTMARES...



BUT THIS IS NO DREAM! MRS. LORDE SHRINKS FROM THE BAT-LIKE SHAPE! HER EYES WIDEN WITH HORROR!



THE NEXT MORNING, THE LIFELESS BODY IS FOUND BY THE GARDENER...



VAMPIRE, MRS. KNOWLAND? THERE ARE NO VAMPIRES! THIS WAS DONE BY SOME MANIAC!

MAYBE THE KILLING CAN BE EXPLAINED! A MANIAC ON THE LOOSE...

THE NEXT DAY, AFTER THE FUNERAL!

I'M WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU! WHETHER THERE'S ANYTHING TO THIS VAMPIRE LEGEND OR NOT, I WANT YOU OUT OF HERE!

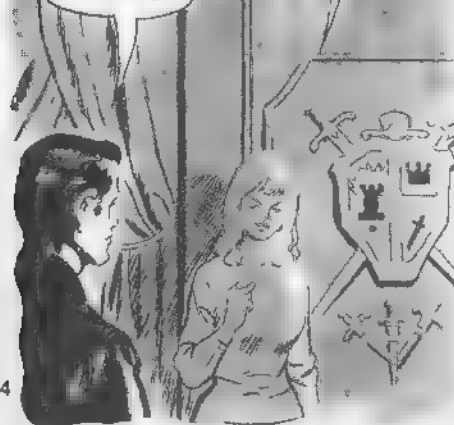
YOU'D LIKE THAT, WOULDN'T YOU? PERHAPS YOU HAD SOMEONE MURDER MOTHER...

YOU THINK THAT? YOU'VE EVEN BEGUN TO THINK LIKE HER!

I WON'T GO! YOU CAN'T MAKE ME!

Y-YOU STABBED ME!

GET OUT! AND DON'T EVER COME BACK! I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU EVER AGAIN!



AT DOC BREWER'S OFFICE...

DO I BELIEVE IN VAMPIRES? NO! BUT I WORRY MORE ABOUT ELINOR'S BEHAVIOR!

I MUST BE AT THE VILLA DI PINI THE NEXT NIGHT OF THE FULL MOON! I DON'T DARE LEAVE HER ALONE, VAMPIRE OR NO VAMPIRE!



THE MONTH PASSES SWIFTLY! THEN, ONE NIGHT...

WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG, DOC? YOU KNOW I WANTED TO BE AT THE VILLA IN TIME FOR THE FULL MOON!

COULDN'T HELP IT, BOB! MY PATIENT WAS PRETTY LOW! STOW THIS TRANSFUSION APPARATUS IN THE BACK OF YOUR CAR!



AT THE VILLA...

STRANGE! I THOUGHT I HEARD A SOUND ON THE TERRACE! THE SERVANTS WENT OFF FOR THE NIGHT!



AIEE!

STAY AWAY FROM ME! OH, H-HELP! HELP!



MOMENTS LATER, OUTSIDE...

THAT'S ODD, THAT STATUE IS OPEN! IS IT SUPPOSED TO BE HOLLOW?

LISTEN! A SCREAM! IT'S ELINOR!

EEH!!!



GOOD LORD, LOOK! IT'S A VAMPIRE!

NO, BOB! DON'T GO NEAR HIM! HE'S NOT HUMAN! NOBODY CAN FIGHT A VAMPIRE WITH MORTAL WEAPONS. TAKE THIS MIRROR! THE IMAGE OF HIMSELF IS SUPPOSED TO DRIVE HIM AWAY!





THE MIRROR
WORKS ALL
RIGHT HE
CAN'T COME
NEAR ME!



HE'S
RUNNING
AWAY!

ELINOR'S LOST A LOT OF BLOOD!
SHE HAS A CHANCE IF YOU
HURRY AND GET THAT
INTRAVENOUS EQUIPMENT
OUT OF THE CAR! I MIGHT
SAVE HER LIFE WITH A
BLOOD TRANSFUSION!

*M*INUTES LATER, AS LIFE-
GIVING BLOOD STREAMS IN A
SUSTAINING FLOW FROM
HUSBAND TO WIFE...

OH, ROBERT--ROBERT, DARLING...
I'VE **ALWAYS** LOVED YOU! BUT
SOMETHING CAME OVER ME!
IT WAS M-MOTHER'S BAD
INFLUENCE!

YES, I
KNOW!

YOU'D BETTER LIE DOWN,
TOO, BOB! YOU GAVE UP AN
AWFUL LOT OF BLOOD! SAY!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO
WITH THAT SPEAR?

THEY SAY
ONLY A STAKE
THROUGH THE
HEART CAN KILL
A VAMPIRE! I'LL
SOON FIND
OUT!

*ROBERT KNOWLAND APPROACHES
THE HALF-OPEN STATUE! HIS
MUSCULAR ARM DRAWS BACK!
THE SPEAR IS HURLED!*



ROBERT! THE
VAMPIRE! HE'S NO
LEGEND! HE'S **REAL**!

HE **WAS** REAL,
DARLING! HE'S GONE
NOW-- THERE'S
ONLY YOU AND
ME NOW--

NOTHING HERE BUT
A HANDFUL OF DUST
AND THIS BAT RING!





THE NIGHT DESCENDS... AND ALL THE CREATURES OF EARTH CURL UP FOR SLEEP, BUT ALIVE AND LURKING, IS ONE THAT HOWLS WITH EVIL GLEE... A CREATURE SHUNNED BY MAN AND BEAST, THAT KILLS BY FANG AND CLAW... A HORROR THAT WAITS FOR A...

WEREWOLF

THE THREE HAD BEEN INSEPARABLE ALMOST FROM THE FIRST DAY OF COLLEGE! THREE YEARS LATER, THEY WERE CLOSER THAN BROTHERS... AND THAT'S HOW IT BEGAN...

BUT, GUYS! I TELL YOU I HAVE UNCOVERED THE HIDDEN WRITINGS OF LUPE GAROU!

A CHARLATAN! A PHONEY WHO PUBLICIZED HIMSELF AS A WEREWOLF! WHAT ROT!

IT'S NOT, LARRY! I'M SURE THOSE CHEMICAL REACTIONS IN THE OLD BOOK I FOUND AT THE USED BOOK STORE ARE GENUINE!

ALL RIGHT, ALEX... BUT WE THINK YOU'VE BEEN SEEING TOO MANY HORROR SHOWS!



SO
DEVASTATING
HAD BEEN
HIS FRIEND'S
CRITICISM
THAT
ALEX NOME
CONSIDERED
THE
CHEMICAL
THEORY...
LATER,
IN HIS
OWN
ROOM...

OKAY... IF THEY WANT
PROOF, I'LL SHOW THEM!
I'LL DUPLICATE GAROU'S
ENTIRE EXPERIMENT!

...BUT I'LL NEED WOLF BANE' CRYSTALS
AND GAROU'S NOTES SAY THAT HE
WAS TO BE BURIED WITH THE
CRYSTALS WHEN HE DIED! MY ONLY
SOURCE THEN... S GAROU'S GRAVE!

LUPE GAROU, THE MAN WHO HAD PERPETRATED THE
HOAX OF THE CENTURY, LAY ENTOMBED IN A WEED-
CHOKED CEMETERY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN...
TWO NIGHTS LATER...

I MUST'VE BEEN CRAZY
TO COME HERE! IF THE
POLICE CATCH ME, I'M
SUNK!

MAYBE LARRY AND RUSSEL ARE
RIGHT! ME AND MY INSANE
THEORIES! WHO EVER HEARD
OF SOMEONE WANTING TO
BE BURIED WITH WOLF
BANE? WELL SOON
I'LL FIND OUT...

GREAT SCOTT!!
H-HE WAS RIGHT!!
LOOK AT HIS
FACE!

T'S TRUE THEN! LUPE GAROU DELIBERATELY
COMMITTED SUICIDE BY INHALEING THE CHOKING
VAPORS OF WOLF BANE! THE TOWNSPEOPLE MUST
HAVE BURIED HIM WITH THE REST OF THE CRYSTALS
AS HE DIRECTED, ONE HUNDRED YEARS
AGO!! INCREDIBLE!

LATER...

THINK OF IT, DARLING...
THE MINUTE I ANNOUNCE
MY DISCOVERY, SCIENCE
WILL STRIDE AHEAD!

OH, PLEASE
ALEX! STOP TALKING
IN MELODRAMATIC
CLICHES!

COME NOW! ADMIT YOU'RE
JOKING! WEREWOLVES,
CHEMICAL REACTIONS! HA,
HA! I'D RATHER YOU TOLD
ME YOU LOVED ME!

YOU KNOW I
DO, ALICE... BUT
I'M DEADLY
EARNEST ABOUT
THIS AND I'LL
PROVE IT!



MIDNIGHT...
AND THE
FULL OF
THE MOON
OVER THE
LAND...
LARGE...
OMINOUS...
THE
PORTENT
OF
DEATH...

I'VE MELTED ALL THE
CRYSTALS INTO THE FLUID
AND NOW... ACCORDING TO
GAROL'S FORMULA, I MUST
DRINK IT AT MIDNIGHT
AT FULL MOON!



THE MOONLIGHT PROBABLY
HAS SOME SUBTLE EFFECT
ON THE REACTION THAT I
CAN'T EXPLAIN AS YET...
BUT NOW... HERE
GOES !!



ARRGH! MY THROAT... ON
FIRE! FEEL STRANGE...
DIZZY... SOMETHING'S
HAPPENING TO ME...



IT WORKED! I HAVE
A DESIRE TO KILL--
KILL! HA, HA!



LATER... ON THE STREET...

GETTING A BIT CHILLY
LATELY! THINK I'LL
WEAR MY WINTER
COAT TOMORROW!



AAGGH! LET
GO!! W-WHAT DO
YOU WANT?
AGGHH--!

...KILL
KILL
KILL!



YAA-A-AHHH!



And THE
BEAST OF
HORROR
STRUCK
AGAIN...
AGAIN...
AND
AGAIN
AND...



AND WHEN
DAWN CAME...

OH-H-H... WHERE
AM I? W-WHAT
HAVE I DONE? I--I
KILLED! HEAVEN
HELP ME!





BUT DAWN
ALSO
BROUGHT
HORRIBLE
NEWS
AND
FEAR
TO
ALEX.
NOME...

EXTRA! EXTRA!
NIGHT-FIEND
STRIKES! FIVE
DIE HORRIBLY!

I-I'M GOING TO
GIVE MYSELF UP! I'LL
TELL RUSSEL AND
LARRY EVERYTHING!

ALEX! I'VE TRIED TO REACH
YOU ALL MORNING! THAT
BUSINESS ABOUT THE
WEREWOLF! FANTASTIC,
BUT WE HAVE TO KNOW!
YOU... YOU MUST HAVE
BEEN JOKING...

OF COURSE I
WAS! A MANIAC
IS... IS LOOSE...
AND IT KILLS
LIKE A **BEAST**!
THERE'S NO
OTHER
EXPLANATION!



ALEX DIDN'T KNOW WHAT MADE HIM LIE BECAUSE
NOW HE WAS TWO PEOPLE... AN EVIL MONSTER
ENCASED IN THE BODY OF A YOUNG MAN! LATER...



BUT I FEEL SO STRANGE...
LIKE **BEFORE**... I-I'M
TURNING... TURNING--

GROW-WRR-R!
HA-HA! THIS IS
HOW IT SHOULD BE!
I'M STRONG AND
EAGER... AND THE
MOON CALLS!
HA-HA...



I CAN'T GO THROUGH THAT **AGAIN**!!
WHAT A FOOL I WAS! IT'S MIDNIGHT
ONCE MORE... I... I'M GOING TO
CALL THE POLICE!!



I SHALL RIP OPEN
HER DELICIOUS
THROAT TONIGHT...
HA, HA!

And to
the one
person
so dear,
the beast
stealthily
stalked...
to
destroy
his last
barrier
to
normalcy...



CLOSER I COME TO HER
WARM BLOOD! SEE HOW
FRIGHTENED SHE IS!
NOW... NOW...

EEEEEE

ALICE!! AND...
AND... GOOD
LORD! ALEX!



ALEX LETS GO
OF THE GIRL
AND ATTACKS
HIS FRIEND...

HELP! HELP! CAN'T
FIGHT HIM...MUCH...
LONGER...!!



SUDDENLY
THE POLICE
ARRIVE BUT
THE MENACE
TURNS AND
RUNS...

HEY, YOU!
STOP!!

N-NO!! DON'T
SHOOT HIM!
HE'S SICK!!



LATER...

IT'S ALMOST MORNING...THEY'LL FIND
ME SOON! I CAN'T LET THEM TAKE ME!
I WON'T BE ABLE TO DIE! I HAVEN'T
GONE BACK TO MY HUMAN FORM! THE
CHEMICAL REACTION MUST HAVE
BEEN PERMANENT!



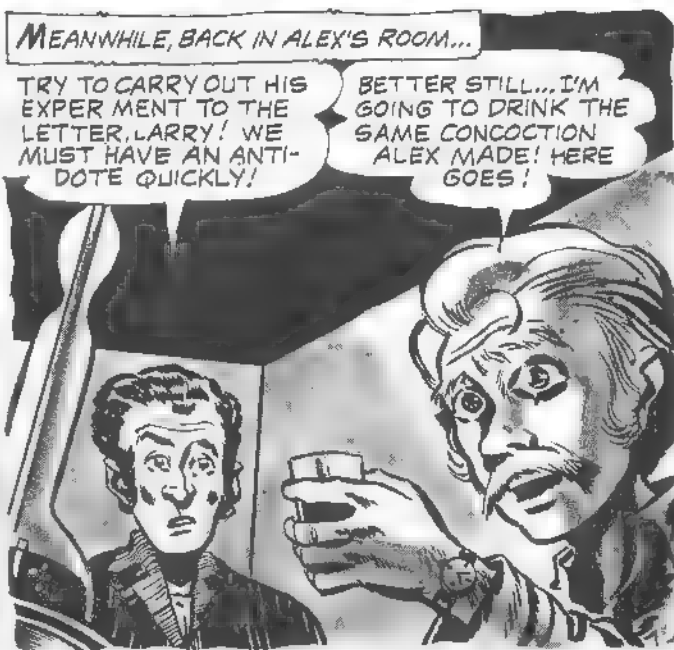
IF THEY TRY TO EXECUTE
ME, I'LL LIVE TO KILL AGAIN!
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT
OF THIS! GAROU MENTIONED
HYPNOSIS OF ONE'S VICTIMS...
FORGIVE ME, MY DARLING
FOR WHAT I AM
ABOUT TO DO...



MEANWHILE, BACK IN ALEX'S ROOM...

TRY TO CARRY OUT HIS
EXPERIMENT TO THE
LETTER, LARRY! WE
MUST HAVE AN ANTI-
DOTE QUICKLY!

BETTER STILL...I'M
GOING TO DRINK THE
SAME CONCOCTION
ALEX MADE! HERE
GOES!



ONE HOUR LATER...

IT'S AS WE FEARED!
THIS SOLUTION
HAS ABSOLUTELY NO
EFFECT!

YES!! ALL
THIS IS NOTHING
BUT WASTED
EFFORT! POOR
ALEX!

ALEX IS ON MOON HILL! HE
HAS ALICE UP THERE! THE
POLICE SAW HER WALKING
UP THERE ALONE! THAT'S
HOW THEY FOUND HIM!
THEY'RE GOING TO
CLOSE IN!

LET'S GO!
COME ON,
LARRY, I
KNOW A
SHORT CUT!



SECONDS OF A LIFE SPEEDING BY... SECONDS
STRETCHED INTO ETERNITY... AND THEN...

ALICE...!!
NO!! NO!!



YIEEEE!!



POLICE, MORBID PEOPLE... REPORTERS... A CRYING
GIRL WAKING UP FROM HER TRANCE... BUT MORE
STARTLING... THE FACE OF THE BEAST...

WHY... HE'S NORMAL...
NORMAL IN
EVERY WAY!

YES, RUSSEL...
IN EVER
WAY...

"EXCEPT IN HIS MIND! INSANITY
MADE HIM THINK HE WAS A
WEREWOLF! BUT REASON
RECONQUERED FOR A
WHILE MAKING HIM WANT
TO KILL HIMSELF! WHAT
BETTER WAY THAN TO
HAVE HIS SWEETHEART
DO IT? YES, INSANITY
WAS THE HORRIBLE
BEAST... NOT HIS
EXPERIMENTS!"

BUT HOW DID
ALICE KNOW HE
WAS HERE? HOW
DID SHE KNOW
WHERE TO FIND
HIM? EXPLAIN THAT
IF YOU CAN!!
EXPLAIN IT!!



THE
END

THE BATS



JOHNNY PIERCE, OWNER AND OPERATOR OF A PASSENGER-PLANE SERVICE IN SANTA ROSA, WENT SUDDENLY OUT OF BUSINESS WHEN HE CRASH-LANDED IN A LAKE WITH HIS PASSENGERS! LITTLE DID THEY KNOW WHAT THE TREK TO SAFETY WILL ENTAIL...

BY JUPITER! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS INCOMPETENCE! WHERE ARE WE?

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE! YOU MIGHT AS WELL RELAX, COUNT VACRINI!

FORTUNATELY FOR ELIZABETH BROWN AND COUNT VACRINI, THEIR PILOT WAS FAMILIAR WITH THE FLORA AND FAUNA OF THE REGION AND PROVIDED EDIBLE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, AND EVEN CHINCHONA BARK TO PREVENT MALARIA!

AFTER THREE DAYS OF HOT, TORTUROUS TRAVEL THEY STUMBLED ON THE RUINS OF AN ANCIENT MAYAN CITY...

WE WANT TO BE FRIENDS, AMIGOS! CAN ANY OF YOU GUYS SPEAK ENGLISH?

ME SPEAK! YOU COME! SEE CHIEF!





HA! LOOK! I'VE CARVED AN EFFIGY! I AM IN POSSESSION OF STRANDS OF HAIR FROM THE WITCH-DOCTOR CHIEF! NOW WATCH:...

THE HAIRS ARE ATTACHED! THE WOUND IS INFLECTED! COBBA-COBBA-ZENGA-MENGA! IT IS DONE! IN THE MORNING HIS LEFT LEG WILL BE LAME!

THIS WILL SHUT YOU UP AND PUT YOU TO SLEEP!



THE NEXT MORNING...

ALLO BELLO LOA MONGO WALLA DOA LULAWANGO!

CHIEF SAY YOU MAKE HEX ON HE! CHIEF SAY HE MAKE MAGIC FIND OUT WHO! YOU GO AWAY! HE WHO MAKE HEX DIE!

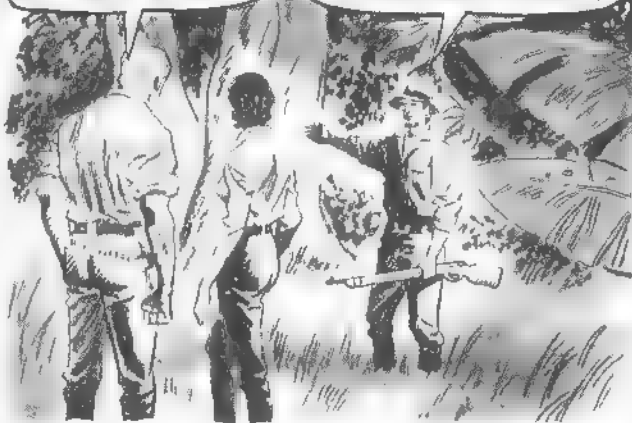
HA! YOU WON'T SCOFF AT BLACK MAGIC AGAIN, PIERCE!



LUCKY TO ESCAPE THE IRATE INDIANS, THE TRIO PLUNGED INTO THE HOSTILE WILDERNESS ON THEIR OWN AGAIN...

IF WE EVER GET BACK I'M GOING TO CELEBRATE BY BEATING YOU UP TO A PULP!

I SUGGEST YOU BE MORE CAREFUL! I MIGHT MAKE YOU THE NEXT VICTIM OF MY WITCHCRAFT!



NIGHT FELL, AND AS THE THREE SLEPT, A HORRIBLE THING CAME ON THE CAMP SITE...



ELIZABETH SENSED THE HORROR IN HER SLEEP AND AWOKES!

OH! JOHNNY! HELP!



I'LL DRINK YOUR BLOOD AFTER I'VE
DRAINED HER!

WHA...?

EEEEEE!



JOHNNY RETURNED TO THE ATTACK, ARMED
NOW WITH A PRICKLY BRANCH HE'D PLUCKED
FROM THE LEAN-TO...

STOP! THAT BRANCH!
TAKE IT AWAY! I
CAN'T STAND
IT!



THAT ACCURSED PLANT!
YOU'VE WON OUR FIRST
ENCOUNTER, BUT I'LL
GET YOU!



THAT VAMPIRE BEARS
AN AMAZING LIKENESS
TO COUNT VACRINI!
I-I WONDER...



COUNT VACRINI ISN'T HERE
THERE'S BLOOD ON THE
GROUND... PERHAPS THE
CHIEF FOUND OUT WHO
HEXED HIM AND SENT
HIS INDIANS TO KILL
VACRINI!



THIS BRANCH SAVED OUR LIVES...
ELIZABETH! IT MUST BE SOME SORT OF
WOLFSBANE--THE PLANT THAT'S
SUPPOSED TO SCARE OFF VAMPIRES!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, AT THE INDIAN VILLAGE...

AH, LITTLE BROTHER,
THERE'S NOTHING
MORE DELICIOUS
THAN THE
TASTE OF
FRESH WARM
BLOOD, IS
THERE?



FRESH
WARM
BLOOD!

EEEEIII!

AWOMBA!
YAGH-H!

THAT WAS JUST THE BEGINNING FOR NIGHT AFTER
NIGHT THE VAMPIRE LEFT A BLOODLESS CORPSE...

WE DID AS YOU ORDERED, O CHIEF, AND DUG
UP THE GRAVE OF THE WHITE MAN WE
KILLED, BUT THE BODY WAS GONE! IT DID
NOT WALK AWAY! IT MUST HAVE RISEN
FROM THE EARTH LIKE A BIRD *

*TRANSLATED FROM
NATIVE DIALECT...

...OR A BAT! THE WHITE
WITCH-DOCTOR HAS TURNED
INTO A VAMPIRE TO WREAK
VENGEANCE UPON US! I AM
HELPLESS AGAINST SUCH
GREAT MAGIC *

GO! BRING BACK THE
WHITE MAN AND GIRL
IF THEY ARE STILL
ALIVE! IF THEY
CANNOT HELP US,
WE ARE
DOOMED *

THEY FOUND JOHNNY AND ELIZABETH
IN A MATTER OF HOURS, BUT THEY
WERE MORE DEAD THAN ALIVE...

WE HAVE SOME
STRANGE DISEASE
SAPPING AWAY
OUR STRENGTH...
C-CAN'T GO ON...

YOU WEAR
POISON
PLANT!
TAKE
PLANT
OFF!

LATER, THAT AFTERNOON...

CHIEF SAY HE MAKE
YOU WELL! NOW YOU
TELL HE HOW TO
KILL MAN-BAT!

TO DESTROY
A VAMPIRE
YOU'VE GOT TO
FIND OUT WHERE
IT LIVES!

AMA MELO
UMBA
WAHA
LOA
LOBO!

CHIEF SAY
LITTLE VAMPIRES
LIVE IN CAVE,
BUT NOT
KNOW WHERE
BIG VAMPIRE
LIVE!

MAYBE IN
THE SAME
CAVE! LET'S
GO SEE!

THE CHIEF ACCEPTED THE SUGGESTION,
AND THEY WENT TO THE CAVE OF THE
VAMPIRE BATS...

CHIEF SAY
CAVE VERY
BIG... LONG!

IF HE'S IN HERE,
HE'S PROBABLY
NOT VERY FAR
FROM THE
ENTRANCE!

SUDDENLY...

EIIII!
LOMBO!

GREAT
GUNS!
THERE
HE IS!

MANALA LOMBO!
MUM OOLA UNA
LOA LOMBO?

CHIEF SAY WHAT
DO NOW? ME
KNOW WHAT
DO... RUN!

EIIII!

AMANO
MUDUQA!

CHIEF SAY
NO RUN!
MUST KILL
VAMPIRE!
CHIEF SAY
WHITE
MAN TELL
HOW KILL
VAMPIRE!

HMM...THE
VAMP,RE'S BELLY
WAS BLOATED...
AND IF IT WAS,
WITH BLOOD,
MAYBE THAT'S
HOW HE CAN BE
DESTROYED!

JOHNNY INSTRUCTED THE
INDIANS TO BLOCK THE CAVE...

IT WILL BE
DARK SOON!
HURRY
HURRY!

AMALA!
AMALA!

THEN...THE BATS FLURRY
AWAKE...TO HUNT THROUGH
THE NIGHT...FOR BLOOD!

AH-H! I'M GLAD THAT
VAMPIRES DID RUN
IN MY FAMILY!

WHA...? THEY'VE SEALED
THE ENTRANCE...BUT I'LL
OPEN IT! I HAVE THE
POWER AND STRENGTH
OF EVIL IN MY BODY!

TELL THEM THEY'VE
GOT TO HOLD!
IF HE GETS
OUT WE'RE
LOST!

LOA WEEL!
LOA WEEL!

AS THE VAMPIRE TRIED TO
BREACH THE STONES
SEALING THE ENTRANCE,
HIS SKIN WAS RIPPED AND
A SMALL FLOW OF BLOOD
BEGAN TO TRICKLE OUT...

FOOLS! DO THEY
THINK THEY CAN
KEEP ME FROM
MY VICTIMS?

...AND AS THE VICIOUS LITTLE
BATS SCENTED THE FLOWING
BLOOD...

SCREEEEEEEE!

...AND BEFORE THE VAMPIRE COULD
DISLODGE THE BARRIER, HE FOUND
HIMSELF SUDDENLY ATTACKED BY
THE HUNGRY BATS!

ARGHH! GET OFF
YOU LITTLE FIENDS!
OOHHH!

HORRIFYING SCREAMS RENT THE AIR... AND
THEN... SILENCE...

WHAT
HAPPEN
INSIDE
CAVE?

EXACTLY WHAT I
FIGURED! ALL THOSE
HUNGRY BATS TURNED ON
THE NEAREST SOURCE OF
BLOOD--THE VAMPIRE!

A LITTLE LATER...

THIS SOLVES THE VAMPIRE
PROBLEM! TELL YOUR
CHIEF TO HAVE THIS
THING DISECTED
INTO MANY PIECES
AND BURY EACH PIECE
IN A DIFFERENT
SPOT!

ME TELL!
WHITE MAN
SAVE TRIBE!

THE GRATEFUL INDIANS ESCORTED JOHNNY
AND ELIZABETH BACK TO SANTA ROSA
WHERE THEY GOT MARRIED!

I'M A LUCKY GUY! NOT
ONLY DO I HAVE AN
AIRLINE AGAIN, BUT
A BEAUTIFUL HOSTESS
TO GO WITH IT!

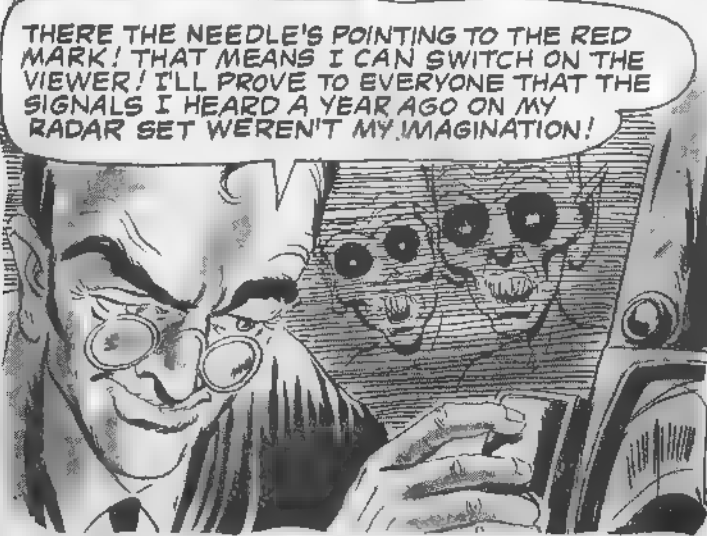
THE
END



IT WORKS! I KNEW IF I STUCK WITH IT, I'D MAKE IT GO! HA! HA! JUST WAIT! LET IT WARM UP A BIT MORE, AND THEN!! I-I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF IT!!

THE LITTLE MAN TWIRLED THE KNOBS! THE SIGNALS FROM OUTER SPACE WERE GROWING LOUDER ... BUT WHAT HE DIDN'T KNOW WAS THAT SOON HE WOULD SEE...

THE CREATURES



THERE THE NEEDLE'S POINTING TO THE RED MARK! THAT MEANS I CAN SWITCH ON THE VIEWER! I'LL PROVE TO EVERYONE THAT THE SIGNALS I HEARD A YEAR AGO ON MY RADAR SET WEREN'T MY IMAGINATION!

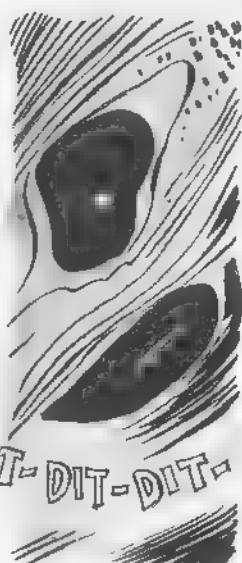
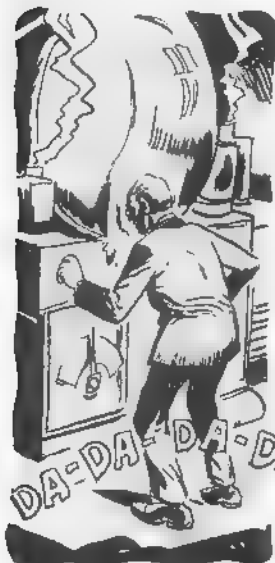


I-I THINK I'VE GOT THE EXACT FREQUENCY... LISTEN...

BUT THE VIEWER REMAINED BLANK!
HUGH CARLSON, HOME INVENTOR
TWIDDED FRANTICALLY WITH THE
DIALS... STILL THAT SAME GREY BLANK,
ONLY THE SOUND GREW LOUDER...

ATTENTION ALL EARTH
AGENTS! ALL ORDERS
WILL BE TRANSMITTED IN
ENGLISH AT THIS POINT!
WE ARE APPROACHING
YOUR SOLAR SYSTEM...
WE SHALL SOON
ESTABLISH CONTACT...
AWK... SPUTTER...

I--I SAW A FACE! YES... IT
WAS DEFINITELY A FACE!
SOMETHING ABOUT EARTH!
GOOD LORD!! THERE'S LIFE
OUT THERE... I MUST
REGAIN CONTACT!!



HUGH
STRIVED
TO
RELOCATE
THE
SIGNAL...
THEN
HE
HEARD...

...HAVE ORDERED OUR ARMADA TO
CONQUER ALL RESISTANCE... YOU WILL
MASQUERADE A WHILE LONGER UNTIL
YOU RECEIVE FURTHER ORDERS... KILL
ALL TERRESTRIALS WHO BECOME
SUSPICIOUS!

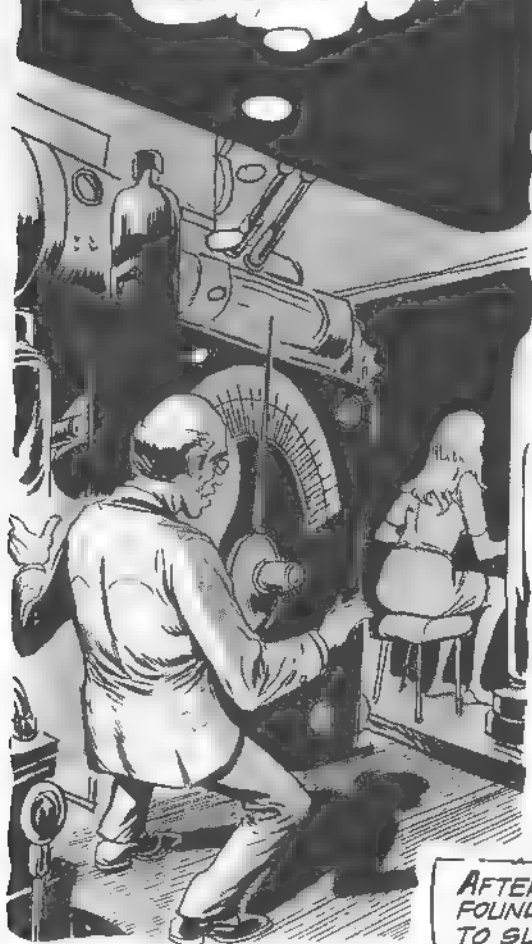
YOU CAN'T BLANK OUT NOW! I-I'VE GOT
TO HEAR MORE! I'VE LOST THE SIGNAL!
SOMETHING HORRIBLE IS GOING
TO HAPPEN TO EARTH!



W-WHAT WAS THAT?
SOMEONE'S IN HERE!



THERE HE IS... HIDING IN THOSE SHADOWS... MAYBE IT'S ONE OF THOSE ALIENS! I'M GOING TO...



HUGH!
YOU
FRIGHTENED
ME!



JANIE! I
THOUGHT YOU
WERE... NEVER
COME DOWN
HERE!

WHEN I CALL
YOU TO
DINNER A
DOZEN
TIMES AND
YOU DON'T
ANSWER,
WHAT DO
YOU
EXPECT?

BUT--
I DID IT,
JANIE! I
SAW THEM
THE
ALIENS!
THEY'RE
GOING TO
CONQUER
EARTH
AND...AND...



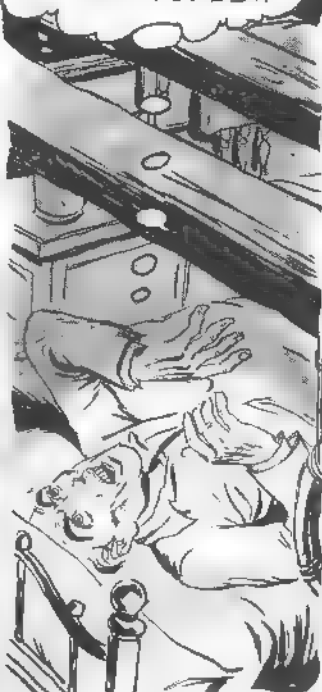
AFTER DINNER, HUGH
FOUND IT IMPOSSIBLE
TO SLEEP...

WHAT NONSENSE
IS THIS? HUGH
CARLSON... IF
YOU'VE BEEN
DRINKING
AGAIN...

IT'S THE
TRUTH! I'LL
SHOW YOU!
OHH... THE
MACHINE IS
DEAD! USED
TOO MUCH
POWER!!



NOW I KNOW WHY
THE VIEWER WENT
DEAD! IT WAS THAT
RADIO TUBE I
BOUGHT AT THE
USED PARTS STORE!
I KNEW I SHOULD
HAVE GOTTEN THE
DELUXE MODEL!!



MAYBE I WAS ONLY TUNED IN ON A
TV PROGRAM! I'LL JUST RECHECK...
I'M PROBABLY WORRIED NEEDLESSLY...
Y-A-W-N

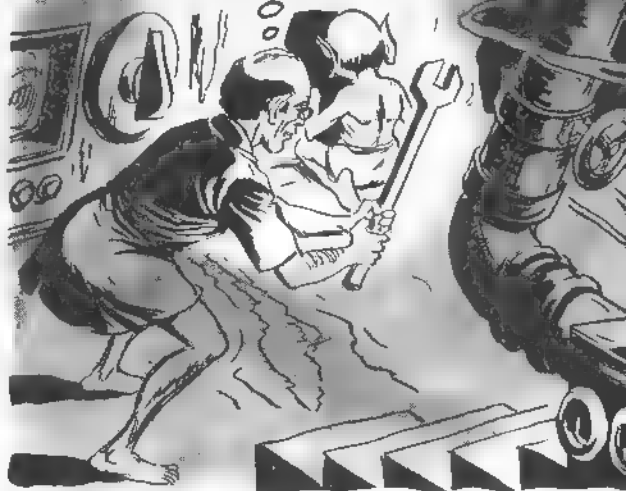


Then HUGH OPENED THE CELLAR DOOR... AND WENT DOWN!

YIEEEEEEE!! SOMEONE'S DOWN HERE... AND IT'S NOT JANE! H-HE'S EXAMINING MY SET! BET HE'S AN ALIEN! Y-YES! THAT'S IT! HE'S GOING TO KILL ME!



HE'LL KNOW I HEARD EVERYTHING! I-I'VE GOT TO DEFEND MYSELF! HE HASN'T SEEN ME YET!!



THERE! HA! HA! I FOOLED YOU!



A FOUL ODOR WELLED UP FROM THE DEAD ONE, AND HUGH LOOKED AND RETCHED! BUBBLING GREEN LIQUID TRICKLED ONTO THE FLOOR AND HUGH GOT SICKER...

HUGH HID THE BODY AND WENT TO BED! THE NEXT DAY HE COULDN'T EAT

IT...IT WAS ALIEN! OH, MY GOD! WHAT SHALL I DO? I CAN'T TELL JANE! IT...IT WOULD UPSET HER HORRIBLY!



ARE YOU SICK? WHAT WILL I DO WITH ALL THIS FOOD? WHO COULD THAT BE AT THE DOOR?

I-I DON'T KNOW...



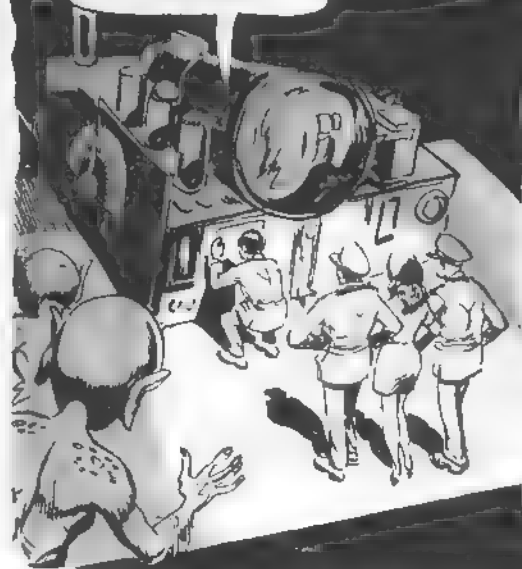
HUGH OPENED THE DOOR AND...

PARDON US... BUT WE'RE FROM MILITARY INTELLIGENCE! WE'VE NOTICED RADAR SIGNALS COMING FROM THIS HOUSE!

OH-H-H! COME RIGHT IN! AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU! I WAS GOING TO CALL YOU!

HUGH TOLD THEM EVERYTHING IN A FLOOD OF WELCOME RELIEF!

I ACTUALLY KILLED ONE OF THOSE ALIENS! I HID HIM UNDER MY MACHINE...



WHA-? IT'S GONE! BUT I HID IT THERE MYSELF! I SWEAR IT!

AH...YES! OF COURSE! WE MUST BE GOING, MR. CARSON! PLEASE DON'T USE THE ARMY FREQUENCY BEAM IN THE FUTURE!

HUGH HAD TO DO SOMETHING! WITH A BOUND HE REACHED THE CONTROLS, AND FLICKED ON THE SWITCH...

WAIT! SEE FOR YOURSELVES! LOOK!



...IN SIGHT OF OUTER ORBIT... WILL BE LANDING SOON! ALL AGENTS! THIS IS STAND-BY ALERT! BEGIN INVASION PLAN!!

SEE?! SEE!! I TOLD YOU! WELL...DO SOMETHING! DON'T STAND THERE!! CALL WASHINGTON!! CALL THE NATIONAL GUARD! I'VE PROVED IT!! HURRY!

YES...YOU'VE PROVED IT BEYOND THE SHADOW OF A DOUBT!





HUGH CARLSON RAN! SOMEHOW HE FOUND THE STRENGTH TO PULL HIS WIFE AFTER HIM... OUTSIDE, THE HOUSE WAS A SCENE OF HELL!



I-I DON'T KNOW? BUT WE MUST ESCAPE OR BE KILLED! WHY ARE YOU SMILING AT ME THAT WAY?

MAYBE BECAUSE I'M REALLY AMUSED, HUGH... BECAUSE I AM DEAD, YOU HE



N-NO, JANE! Y-YOU CAN'T BE... M-MY WIFE...



YOU POOR EARTHLING FOOL! DID YOU THINK YOU KILLED ONE OF US? IT WAS YOUR WIFE THAT YOU KILLED!!...WE TRIED TO KEEP YOU IGNORANT OF THE INVASION...BECAUSE WE WANT ONE SPECIMEN ALIVE! BUT NOW... IT'S HOPELESS... I SUPPOSE!!



And CARLSON'S WIFE WAS RIGHT... OF COURSE... FOR HUGH BECAME INSANE, SO THEY PLACED HIM IN A CAGE WITH A SIGN OUTSIDE TO EXPLAIN WHO HE WAS... SPECIES HOMO SAPIENS... THE LAST MAN ON EARTH!!

THE END

the MONSTER



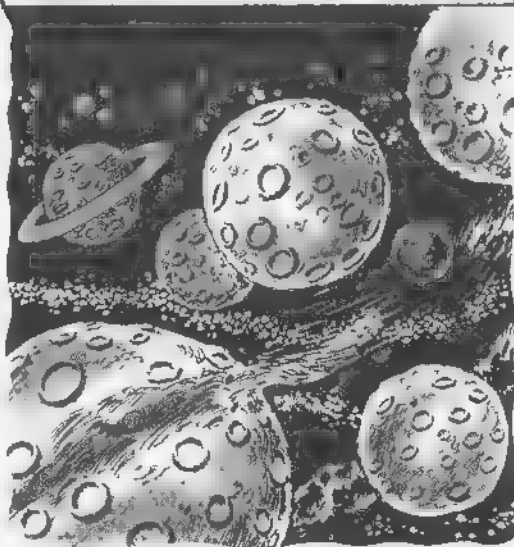
DAILY BUGLE
PLANETARY MANIAC
TAKES 20TH VICTIM

THE EVENING NEWS
KILLER FROM SAT
STRIKES AGAIN

OUT OF NOWHERE CAME THE SPACE MONSTER WHOSE MISSION WAS MURDER! THE BEAST FROM SATURN CALMLY SELECTED ITS VICTIMS AND SLEW THEM! WHAT WAS THE SECRET OF HIS INVISIBILITY? HOW MANY CITIZENS MUST DIE BEFORE THE POLICE COULD FIND... **THE KILLER FROM SATURN??**

MAN IS
STILL
EXPLORING
THE WORLD
HE LIVES IN!
THE WORLD
OF SEA AND
JUNGLE
AND ICE!
YET HE
KNOWS
NEXT TO
NOTHING
ABOUT THE
WORLD
OF
SPACE!

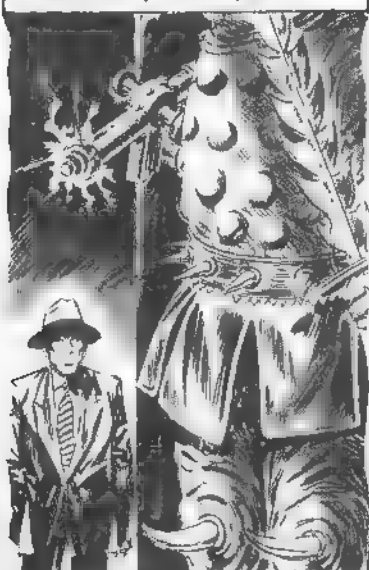
YET THERE IT IS... A COLD,
SPARKLING UNIVERSE... OUT OF
REACH... BUT NOT OUT OF MIND!



CERTAINLY NOT OUT OF THE MIND OF
ONE CREATURE WHO LURKS IN THE
SHADOWS OF AN ALLEYWAY...



WAITING FOR ITS
PREY TO APPROACH...



THE
PREY
FEELS
SECURE
AS HE
LIGHTS
A
CIGARETTE!



HE HEARS A SLIGHT
SOUND IN THE ALLEY-
WAY!



NO! WHAT HE HEARS IS NO CAT!
NO ANIMAL OF ANY SORT! NO
CREATURE HE'D EVER SEEN
BEFORE!



HE TRIES
TO SCREAM
BUT THE
SCREAM
GURGLES
SILENTLY
IN HIS
THROAT!
HE CAN
ONLY
STEP
BACK-
WARD
AS THE
CREATURE
STEPS
FORWARD.



HE CAN ONLY GAZE WITH TERROR UPON
A SIGHT NO HUMAN EYES HAVE EVER
SEEN BEFORE!



HE CAN ONLY PERISH...



AND KEEP HIS SILENCE!



NOR
IS
THERE
ANY
UNUSUAL
EXCITE-
MENT
WHEN
HIS
BODY
IS
FOUND!

WHAT
WAS IT,
ED!

A ROUTINE
MUGGING
JOB! THIS
WOULDN'T
HAPPEN IF
THEY HAD
MORE COPS!



THEN THEY FOUND
THEIR FIRST COP...



...THEIR FIRST JANITOR...



THEIR FIRST JUNK MAN...



THEIR FIRST TRUCK DRIVER...



AND THEIR FIRST
LOVERS LANE COUPLE...

LOOK AT THE
EXPRESSION ON
THEIR FACES!



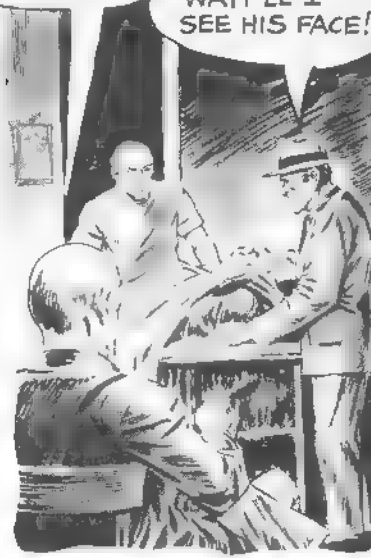
EVER SEE SUCH
HORROR? IT'S THE
SAME THING WITH THE
OTHER STIFFS WE'VE
BEEN FINDING! THEY
ALL LOOK SCARED
TO DEATH!



THE MUGGER
AGAIN?

I DON'T
KNOW!
WAIT'LL I
SEE HIS FACE!

THE
KILLINGS
WENT
ON
UNABATED!
THE
DEAD
ARRIVED
AT THE
MORGUE
...ON
SCHEDULE!



YEP! IT'S THE
MUGGER! THIS
KILLER DOESN'T
HAVE TO STAB
'EM TO DEATH!
THEY'RE SHOCKED
TO DEATH...

BUT
WHAT DO
THEY
SEE?

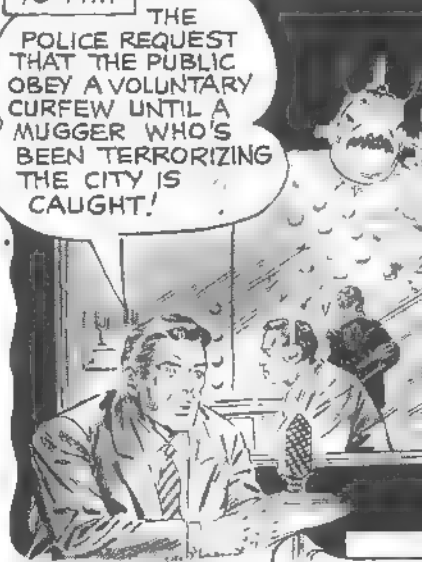
WHO KNOWS!
IT CAN'T BE
HUMAN...OTHER
WISE THEY
WOULDN'T
LOOK THAT
WAY!

C'MON
IT'S GOT
TO BE
HUMAN!



THE POLICE DEPARTMENT WAS
NOW PAYING MORE ATTENTION
TO IT...

THE
POLICE REQUEST
THAT THE PUBLIC
OBEY A VOLUNTARY
CURFEW UNTIL A
MUGGER WHO'S
BEEN TERRORIZING
THE CITY IS
CAUGHT!



REPORT ANY STRANGE
OCCURENCES OR
ECCENTRIC INDIVIDUALS
TO THE NEAREST
PRECINCT!



THE VIGILANCE INCREASED... BUT SO DID
THE MURDERS!

HOLD ONTO YOUR
HATS, BOYS! THE MUG-
GERS GOING INTO MASS
PRODUCTION! IT JUST
CAME OVER THE T.V.!
TONIGHT HE KILLED
THREE PEOPLE!





WE'RE TRIPLING
OUR PATROLS!

THE KILLER MUST
BE CAUGHT! BEFORE
THE CITY GETS
PANICKED!



LATE EDITION
MYSTERY
MURDER

DAILY
NO CLUES
POLICE
BAFFLED

DAILY CRONICLE
MURDER EPIDEMIC
STRIKES CITY

Evening Paper
POLICE
BAFFLED

THIS IS YOUR POLICE COMMISSIONER!
EVERYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE IS BEING
DONE TO CATCH THIS MANIAC!

JOURNAL NEWS
FIEND ATTACKS



BUT, THE DEATHS
WENT ON!

N-NO!
EEEEAA!



THE PATROLS WERE
QUADRUPLED!...SO WERE
THE MURDERS!



THEN ONE NIGHT...SOMEONE
BESIDES A VICTIM SAW SOME-
THING...

HEY! WHAT'S
GOING ON
THERE?



WHO'S
SCREAMING?

THERE'S
SOMEBODY
IN THE
BACKYARD!

I'VE GOT A
FLASHLIGHT
LET'S SEE!



Ahhh!

LOOK!



W-WHAT
IS IT?

I-I DON'T KNOW!
I'VE NEVER SEEN
ANYTHING LIKE
IT BEFORE!

HE'S
EIGHT
FEET TALL!
AN' LOOK
HOW HE'S
DRESSED!



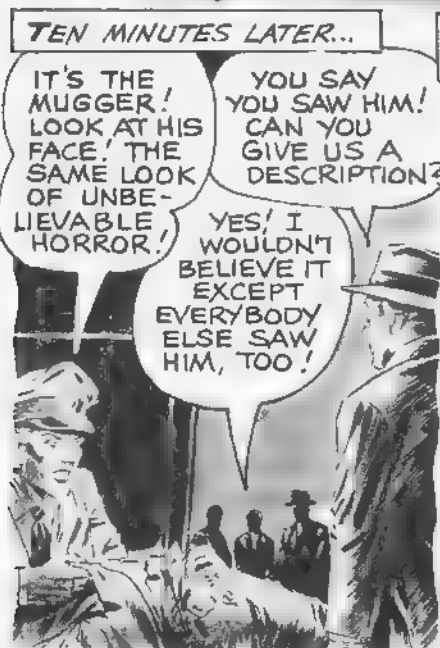
HE LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THEM SPACE CREATURES!

SOMEBODY'S LYING AGAINST THE FENCE!

STOP HIM!

HE MUST BE THE MUGGER THAT KILLED OVER 20 PEOPLE!

H-HELP! POLICE! POLICE WE'VE FOUND THE KILLER! WE FOUND HIM!



TEN MINUTES LATER...

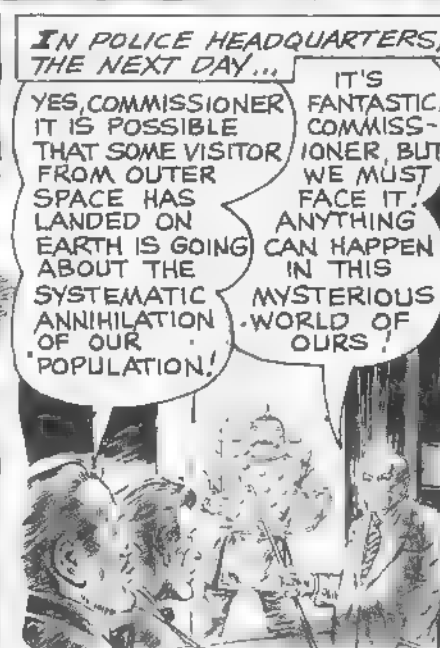
IT'S THE MUGGER! LOOK AT HIS FACE! THE SAME LOOK OF UNBELIEVABLE HORROR!

YOU SAY YOU SAW HIM! CAN YOU GIVE US A DESCRIPTION?

YES! I WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT EXCEPT EVERYBODY ELSE SAW HIM, TOO!



AND SO THE HORRIFYING NEWS BROKE!



IN POLICE HEADQUARTERS, THE NEXT DAY...

YES, COMMISSIONER IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME VISITOR FROM OUTER SPACE HAS LANDED ON EARTH IS GOING ABOUT THE SYSTEMATIC ANNIHILATION OF OUR POPULATION!

IT'S FANTASTIC! COMMISSIONER, BUT WE MUST FACE IT! ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN IN THIS MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF OURS!



PUBLIC REACTION CAME SWIFTLY...

IT'S TOUGH ENOUGH CHASING GANGSTERS NOW THEY ASK US TO NAIL MONSTERS FROM OUTER SPACE!

SURE, I'M BOLTING THE DOOR! THIS THING IS 8 FEET HIGH!

DESERTED STREET! HMM! I'D LIKE TO BE LOCKED UP IN A SNUG LITTLE HOUSE MYSELF!

PROPHETIC WORDS! THE UNEARTHLY KILLER WAS NOT PARTICULAR! HIS APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION WAS STRONG!



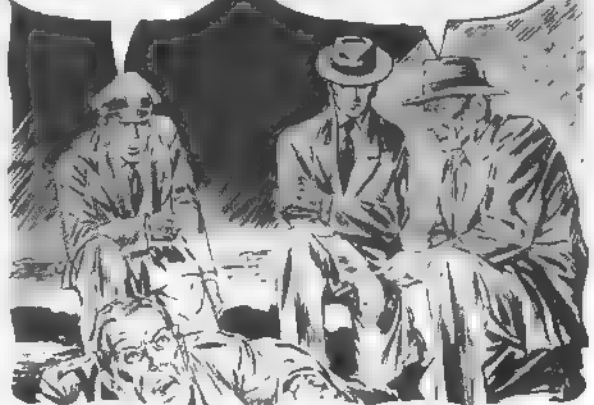
I THOUGHT I HEARD A SOUND HE... ULLLP!



NEXT MORNING...

SEEMS OUR BOY
ISN'T PARTICULAR
WHO HE KILLS
AS LONG AS
HE GETS A
VICTIM... ANY
VICTIM!

THAT FITS IN
WITH THE
SCIENTIST'S
THEORY THAT
WE'VE BEEN
INVADED BY A
KILLER FROM
SATURN!



THE FIEND ATTACKS!
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO
THE VICTIMS ARE! IT'S
AS IF SOMEBODY
WERE AT WAR WITH
THE WORLD!

THEN IT DOESN'T
HAVE TO BE
SOMEBODY FROM
SPACE! CRIMINALS
ARE ALWAYS FIGHT-
ING A WAR
AGAINST LAW
AND ORDER!



YOU'RE HINTING
AT SOMETHING,
JORDAN! WHAT
IS IT?

I'M CURIOUS IF ALL
THESE DIVERSE PEOPLE
AREN'T "RELATED" IN
SOME WAY! NOT BY
TIES OF BLOOD... BUT
BY ACTIVITY! I'M
CHECKING EACH
VICTIM!



A WEEK LATER...

SO YOU FOUND
OUT EACH VICTIM
APPLIED TO THE
LICENSE BUREAU
THE DAY HE WAS
KILLED! BUT
WHAT DOES
IT PROVE!

I DON'T
KNOW, ED!
IT'S THE
ONLY
ELEMENT
ALL THE
DEATHS
HAVE IN
COMMON!

INSIDE THE LICENSE BUREAU...

OH, YES,
LIEUTENANT! I
MAKE OUT ALL
KINDS OF
LICENSES...
MARRIAGE, DEATH,
LIQUOR, AUTO,
DOG! THESE
ARE THE
FORMS I
USE!

SUPPOSE YOU
TAKE THE DAY
OFF, PILCHER! I
WANT TO LEARN
MORE ABOUT
THESE VICTIMS!
WHAT THEY
SAID WHEN
THEY MADE OUT
THE LICENSES!
HOW THEY
LOOKED AND
SO ON!

TAKE THE DAY
OFF? ARE YOU
CRAZY, PILCHER?
I'VE NEVER
KNOWN YOU
TO BREAK
THE RULES!
OR EVEN ASK
ME FOR
FAVORS!

N-NO, SIR!
BUT...

HE'LL
BREAK
THE RULES
THIS TIME!
I'M LIEU-
TENANT
JORDAN...
FROM HOMICIDE!



SHORTLY AFTER...

IT'S A RELIEF
GETTING
AWAY FROM
THE BUREAU!

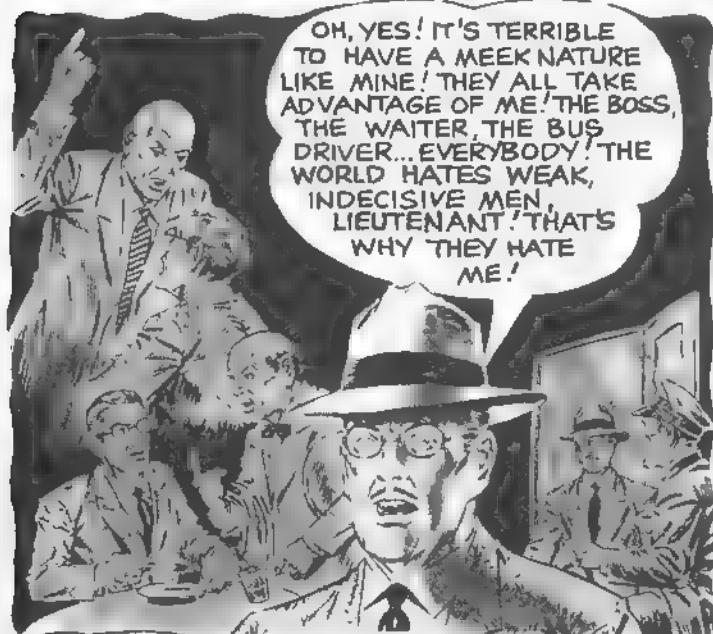
DID
ANY OF
THE VICTIMS
TREAT YOU
BADLY?

OH, YES, PEOPLE
ARE ALL ALIKE,
YOU KNOW!
EVERYBODY
WANTS TO
EXERCISE
POWER OVER
SOMEBODY!

TRUE! I
HADN'T
THOUGHT
OF IF
BEFORE!

I'M A SHY
MAN! I JUST
TAKE THEIR ABUSE
IN SILENCE! I
NEVER FIGHT
BACK! SO
EVERYBODY
STEPS OVER
ME!

THAT'S
TOO
BAD!



OH, YES! IT'S TERRIBLE
TO HAVE A MEEK NATURE
LIKE MINE! THEY ALL TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF ME! THE BOSS,
THE WAITER, THE BUS
DRIVER... EVERYBODY! THE
WORLD HATES WEAK,
INDECISIVE MEN,
LIEUTENANT! THAT'S
WHY THEY HATE
ME!

**THE FOLLOWING DAY, AT THE LICENSE
BUREAU...**

YOU
NINCOMPOOP! HOW
MANY TIMES MUST I
ANSWER THE SAME
QUESTION?
WHERE'S THE
MANAGER?

PILCHER!
WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE
NOW?



THAT IMBECILE
ASKED ME TO
GIVE MY NAME
SIX TIMES! HE'S
MENTALLY
INCOMPETENT!
HE SHOULD
BE FIRED!

I AGREE
WITH YOU!
HE'S AS
STUPID AS
HE IS
COWARDLY!

**THAT NIGHT, AS GEORGE MUNSON
CAME HOME TO 42 WEST STREET,
SOMEBODY WAS WAITING FOR HIM!**



WHO'S THERE?
I HEARD A
SOUND! WHO'S
HIDING THERE?



OH! IT'S
YOU!

YOU DON'T SCARE
ME, MY FRIEND!

Ukkk!

THE BIGGER THEY
ARE, THE HARDER
THEY FALL!

Ooff!

IKKKK!

UNDRESS HIM,
BOY'S! YOU'LL
FIND YOUR
KILLER FROM
SATURN IS
NONE OTHER
THAN OSWALD
PILCHER, CLERK
IN THE LICENSE
BUREAU!

YOU WERE
RIGHT! PILCHER
HATED TO BE
BROW BEATEN
AND HE KILLED
ANY APPLICANT
WHO ABUSED
HIM!

HOLY
SMOKES!
THIS IS A
COSTUME!

RIGHT! PILCHER
NEEDED SOME
SYMBOL OF
POWER FOR A
DISGUISE AND
CHOSE A
MONSTER FROM
SPACE!

NO WONDER
HE WAS 8
FEET TALL!
HE WAS
WEARING
STILTS!

PILCHER SUFFERS
FROM DEMENTIA
PRAECOX...
DELUSIONS OF
GRANDEUR... HIS
ONE IMPULSE IN
LIFE IS TO
BECOME
POWERFUL,
TO INSPIRE
TERROR!

WHERE
SHALL WE
TAKE THE
KILLER,
LIEUTENANT?

TO HIS CAR...
WHICH HE USED
TO GET AROUND
TOWN! THIS
TIME PILCHER'S
CAR WILL
TAKE HIM...
NOT TO ANOTHER
VICTIM... BUT TO
THE BOOBY
HATCH!

A WEEK LATER, IN A STATE
ASYLUM...

LOOK HOW
STRONG I AM!
I'M THE MOST
POWERFUL
MAN IN THE
WORLD! I'M
THE KILLER
FROM SATURN!

HE
ALWAYS
WILL BE
...UP
HERE...
WHERE HE
CAN SAFELY
KILL...
IN HIS
IMAGINATION!

THEIR LOVE WAS FOOLISH AND DANGEROUS-BUT LOVE THEY MUST! EVEN AT THE RISK OF A HORRIBLE DEATH! TERROR CAME, AND THE LOVERS PAID A TERRIBLE PRICE FOR ECSTASY! BUT IN THE END THEY WERE AVENGED BY **THE MONSTER CRABS...**



SKIN RIPPERS

THE YEAR 1703! ON TORTUGA, AN ENGLISH COLONY, A CRIMINAL IS BEING HORRIBLY EXECUTED...

YIIIIIIII- NO! NOT THE CRABS! SHOOT ME-HANG ME! ANYTHING BUT THE CRABS! GAAAAA-

YIIIIIEEE-K-KILL ME! OHHHHHH-HAVE MERCY! YAAAAA-



SIR GILES ROMNEY, GOVERNOR OF TORTUGA, WATCHES THE GRISLY EXECUTION FROM NEARBY- AND ENJOYS IT...

A TOUGH ROGUE, THAT ONE! BUT HIS PIRATE FRIENDS WILL REMEMBER THOSE SCREAMS, AND HATE ME FOR IT!

AHHH-
GAAAA-
EEEEEE!



YES, SIR GILES! BUT WHY NOT KILL HIM NOW! HIS SCREAMS SICKEN YOUR WIFE!

NAY LET THE ROGUE DIE SLOWLY! AS FOR DAMARIS, SHE IS YOUNG AND TENDER, AND KNOWS NOTHING OF SUCH THINGS! BUT SHE WILL LEARN! TO RULE, ONE MUST BE HARD AT TIMES!



AT THAT MOMENT IN THE MUSIC ROOM, DAMARIS ROMNEY TRIES TO DROWN OUT THE HORRIBLE SOUNDS FROM THE BEACH...

MY HUSBAND IS CRUEL, EVIL! JOHN MUST TAKE ME AWAY FROM THIS PLACE SOON-HE MUST!



DAMARIS IS IN LOVE WITH YOUNG JOHN BURTON, THE GOVERNOR'S SECRETARY, AND THAT EVENING WITH A TRUSTED SERVANT...

WE MUST HURRY, MISTRESS! IF SIR GILES FINDS US GONE...

I KNOW MELISSA! HE WOULD GIVE US TO THE CRABS! BUT THAT WILL NOT STOP ME FROM SEEING MY LOVER!



SO THEY HURRY THROUGH THE STREETS OF THE TOWN...

I AM AFRAID, MISTRESS! YOU MUST FORSAKE THIS MADNESS!

PATIENCE, GIRL! IT WILL NOT BE LONG! JOHN WILL FIND A SHIP SOON AND WE SHALL BE GONE!



TO A LOVERS RENDEZVOUS...

DARLING, I MUST GO SOON! BUT PLEASE, IF YOU LOVE ME, FIND A WAY TO TAKE ME AWAY SOON!

I WILL DEAREST! BUT IT TAKES TIME!



LATER, JOHN BURTON IS
ARRESTED...

UNHAND ME, YOU FOOLS!
I'M THE GOVERNOR'S
SECRETARY!



QUIET! YOU DON'T
THINK WE'RE DOING
THIS WITHOUT THE
ORDERS OF HIS
EXCELENCY DO YOU?

YOU SEE! A FRIEND OF
YOURS! THE CRABS
WILL SOON BE
AFTER HIM!

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING THE
GOVERNOR TAKES HIS WIFE FOR
A DRIVE...

B-BUT WHY ARE
WE GOING IN THIS
DIRECTION
GILES? YOU
KNOW I DON'T
LIKE THIS
PART OF THE
BEACH!

THE STAKES,
YOU MEAN?
BUT MY DEAR,
I HAVE A VERY
SPECIAL TREAT
FOR THIS
MORNING!



JOHN! OH, NO,
YOU CAN'T! OH,
JOHN, MY DARLING!
I BROUGHT YOU
TO THIS!

I KNOW THE CRABS SICK-
EN YOU, DAMARIS, AND YOU
HATE EXECUTIONS! BUT
THIS IS DIFFERENT! I CAN'T
ALLOW YOU TO MISS IT!



LET ME GO TO
HIM! I LOVE
HIM! YOU'RE
EVIL AND
VICIOUS! OOH-
LET ME DIE
WITH HIM!

NO, MY DEAR!
YOUR PUNISHMENT
SHALL BE EVEN
WORSE, AND LAST
LONGER!

OH-H-H-H-
GAAAAAAAAA!
I CURSE YOU, SIR
GILES! EVIL BE
YOUR FATE! I'
UH-YAAAAAAAA-
THE CRABS ARE
TEARING AT ME!



THE NEXT DAY AS THE SERVANT GIRL HASTENS TO ARRANGE A RENDEZVOUS...

JUST A MINUTE, YOU!

T-THOSE SOLDIERS! THEY'RE FOLLOWING ME! OH, I'M AFRAID!

YOU ARE WANTED FOR QUESTIONING! NO TROUBLE NOW!

NO! LET ME GO! I'VE DONE NOTHING!



LATER...

HERE IS THE GIRL, YOUR EXCELLENCY! SHE WILL SAY NOTHING!

PLEASE, SIR! MAKE THEM LET ME GO!

WE SHALL SEE, MY GIRL! TELL ME THE TRUTH AND YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!



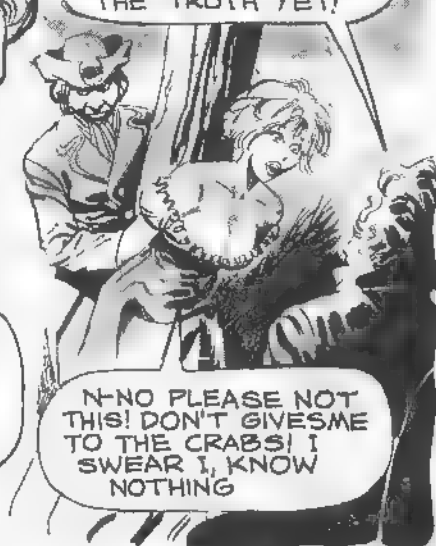
FINALLY SHE IS TAKEN TO THE BEACH...

SHE LIES! BIND HER WELL! WE WILL HAVE THE TRUTH YET!



THE TRUTH ABOUT MY WIFE AND JOHN BURTON! SPEAK!

N-NO PLEASE NOT THIS! DON'T GIVE ME TO THE CRABS! I SWEAR I, KNOW NOTHING



H-HERE THEY COME! THE M-MONSTER CRABS! THEY WILL EAT MY FLESH WHILE I STILL LIVE TO SUFFER! B-BUT IF I TELL THE TRUTH...

AND AS THE SLIMY CREATURES REACH HER FEET, MELISSA BREAKS...

I-C-CAN'T EEEEEEE- I'LL TELL, I'LL TELL! THEY ARE LOVERS! THEY'RE GOING TO RUN AWAY TOGETHER! OH, SAVE ME! AHHHHH-

RELEASE HER AND LOCK HER UP! FOR SPEAKING SHE SHALL HAVE A QUICKER DEATH!



AFTER THE HORRIBLE DEATH OF JOHN BURTON, THE GIRL GREW PALE AND ILL...

THERE IS MUCH SHIPPING IN THE HARBOR THESE DAYS!

YES, HIS EXCELLENCY GOES TO HUNT FOR PIRATES!



THE PIRATE GETS A LUCKY SHOT INTO THE POWDER MAGAZINE OF THE FLAGSHIP...



A SUDDEN TROPICAL SQUALL COMES ON AND WHIPS THE SEA INTO WATERY MOUNTAINS...



I PRAY THAT THE PIRATES KILL HIM! THAT THEY TORTURE HIM FIRST! I WANT HIM TO SUFFER AS JOHN SUFFERED! I MUST HAVE VENGEANCE I MUST!



GAHHHH-

AND AT LAST THE MILES OF REVENGE BEGIN TO GRIND! A PIRATE SHIP SHIPS TO THE VERY MOUTH OF THE HARBOR AND ENGAGES THE GOVERNOR'S FLAGSHIP...

FIRE AWAY, BULLIES! SCUTTLE THE BLOODY BUTCHER!

GET THE RANGE YOU FOOLS! SINK THE SEA SCUM!

AYE-IF WE LOSE WE'LL FEED THE CRABS!



AND THERE IS BUT ONE LONE SURVIVOR- SIR GILES ROMNEY...

S-SAFE! THE TIDES TAKING ME IN TOWARD THE STAKE BEACH! IT TAKES MORE THAN A CHANCE TO KILL ME!



YIIIIIIII- THE TIMBER! GOING TO CRUSH ME! GAAAAAA-



WHEN SIR GILES REGAINS CONSCIOUS-
NESS MINUTES LATER, THE TIDE IS ON
THE EBB - AND HE IS TRAPPED BENEATH
THE GIANT TIMBER...

MY L-LEGS! BROKEN! C-CAN'T MOVE!
I'M TRAPPED AND GAAAA, IT'S
ALMOST TIME FOR THE CRABS
TO COME IN! **HELP-HELP!**



DAMARIS! HELP ME,
I BEG YOU! YOU'RE
MY WIFE - YOU
CAN'T...

CAN'T I?
I'M GOING
TO LEAVE
YOU FOR THE
CRABS, MY
DEAR HUSBAND!
HOW I'LL LAUGH
WHEN YOU START
SCREAMING!

AIEEEEEEE-
OHHHHHHH-
EEEEEEEE-



DAMARIS! MY WIFE! ON, THANK GOODNESS
YOU CAME IN TIME! HELP ME GET THE
TIMBER OFF BEFORE THE CRABS COME!
B-BOTH MY LEGS BROKEN! HURRY,
HURRY DEATH!



HELP YOU,
GILES? HAH-
HAH!

HIS WIFE LEAVES
AND WITH HER
GOES THE LAST
HOPE...

NO, STAY OFF GET
AWAY! NO-NO-NO!
GAAAAAA-



DAMARIS ROMNEY
DIED SOON AFTER-
WARD! BUT TO
THIS DAY THE
NATIVES OF
TORTUGA SWEAR
THAT HER GHOST
WALKS THE OLD
BEACH AND
LAUGHS AT
N.GHT...

HAH-HAH-HEE-
WE HAD OUR
REVENGE, JOHN,
DARLING! HO-HO-
HEEE-HEEEE-



THE END

WHAT IS IT, THERE ON THE DARK, BLEAK, UNINHABITED LITTLE WORLD? HOW CAN IT STRIKE OUT AT THE GREAT PASSENGER LINERS PASSING THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY IN SPACE? JIM FANNING OF EARTH'S INTERPLANETARY EMERGENCY BUREAU FIGHTS DESPERATELY WITH THE UNKNOWN AS HE STRIVES TO SOLVE THE WEIRD...

TERROR ASTEROID

SO YOU'VE SOLVED THE MYSTERY! YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO TELL IT, FANNING!



THE LINER *STARGLOW* FAILS TO ARRIVE IN GREAT-NEW YORK! A PATROL SHIP INVESTIGATES, AND...

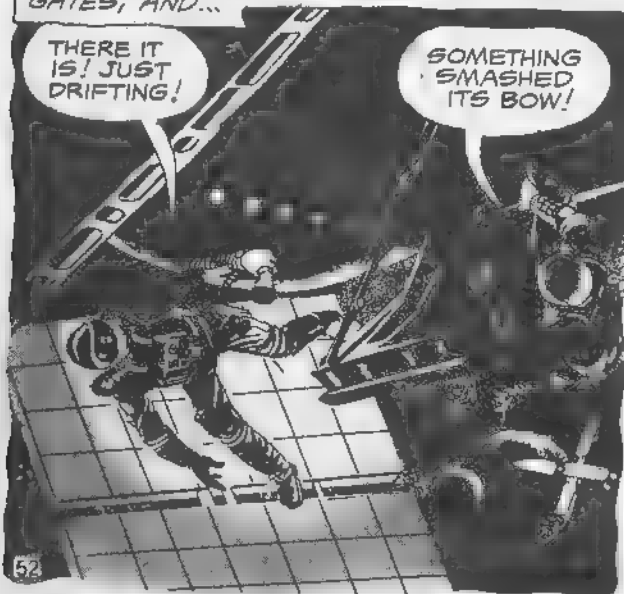
THERE IT IS! JUST DRIFTING!

SOMETHING SMASHED ITS BOW!

INSIDE THE SPACE-LINER SHOCK STAGGERS THE INVESTIGATING ASTRONAUTS!

ALL DEAD! ASPHIXIATED!

ALL THE AIR ON THE SHIP RUSHES OUT THROUGH THE BROKEN AIRLOCK



OTHER SHIPS WERE ALSO REPORTED MISSING! AND NOW, JIM FANNING, OF EARTH'S INTERPLANETARY EMERGENCY BUREAU, IS SUMMONED BY HIS CHIEF!

THE SPACE QUEEN LEAVES FOR MARS TONIGHT! I'M PLANTING YOU ABOARD AS A PASSENGER!

YOU THINK THE SPACE QUEEN WILL BE ATTACKED, CHIEF?

ONE THING IS CERTAIN, THOSE STRICKEN VESSELS WERE LOOTED! BUT NOTHING OF GREAT VALUE WAS ON THEM!

AND THIS VOYAGE IS DIFFERENT?

VERY DIFFERENT, FANNING! AS YOU KNOW, THE MARTIAN GOVERNMENT IS FACED WITH REBELLION ON ITS COLONY OF DEIMOS! SO EARTH IS SENDING THE SECRET OF OUR ELECTRONIC WEAPONS! THE DEIMOS REVOLUTIONISTS WOULD PAY A FORTUNE TO GET!

I THINK SOMEONE HAS GOTTEN WIND OF OUR PLANS! HE SEARCHED THOSE OTHER SHIPS FOR...

HOLD IT CHIEF! THERE'S--

FANNING LEAPS TO THE WINDOW...

GOT HIM!

... I'M DYING...
... THOUGHT I COULD MUSCLE IN ON SECRET...
HEARD... BIG PRICE... FORTUNE
... I-I-- H-HELP ME!

I KNOW THIS FELLOW! HE'S CHARLIE JENKS, JUST RELEASED FROM JAIL YESTERDAY!

WHAT DID YOU HEAR?
... FROM WHOM?

THIS MAN, CARSON-- I THOUGHT I COULD JOIN HIM...
MAKE PLENTY... IN A HURRY...

HE'S DEAD, CHIEF! HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT CARSON! WHO'S HE?

THERE WAS A MYSTERY ABOUT OLD MAN CARSON! HE WAS INVENTING SOMETHING-- NEVER WOULD SAY WHAT! THEN ABOUT A YEAR AGO-- HIS LAB EXPLODED! EVERYTHING WAS WRECKED! HIS BODY WASN'T FOUND!

MAYBE HE DID DIE IN THAT EXPLOSION, MAYBE HE DIDN'T!

THE CAPTAIN OF THE *STAR QUEEN* IS THE ONLY ONE WHO'LL KNOW YOUR IDENTITY DO YOUR BEST!

YES SIR!

POSING AS A PASSENGER, FANNING MEETS SOME OF THE *STAR QUEEN*'S PASSENGERS! CAPTAIN WILKS INTRODUCES HIM!

AND THERE IS ARTHUR JEROME, WEALTHY INTER-PLANETARY TRAVELER!

NICE GROUP OF PASSENGERS THIS VOYAGE, FANNING! I SAY, THERE ARE TWO WHO'VE BEEN SECLUDED ALL THIS TIME!

HELLO, FRIENDS! WE'RE JEROME AND JIM FANNING!

WE'RE PHILLIP AND BRENDA CARSON! TWINS, TWINS, NINETEEN YEARS OLD!

AND THIS IS MISS ANNE ART!

YOUNG MAN, I'M GLAD TO MEET YOU!

MY PLEASURE, MISS ART!

CARSON! WHA--?

AS SOON AS HE CAN MANAGE IT, FANNING IS CLOSETED WITH CAPTAIN WILKS, AND...

AND FROM GREAT-NEW YORK, THE HELIOED ANSWER COMES!

THAT DYING THUG MENTIONED THE NAME CARSON! WHO ARE THESE CARSON TWINS, CAPTAIN WILKS?

I DUNNO! BUT BY THE STARWAYS, I'LL SOON FIND OUT! I'LL SEND A HELIOQUERY TO THE INTERPLANETARY DETECTIVE BUREAU!

PHILIP AND BRENDA ARE CHILDREN OF PROFESSOR CARSON WHO PERHAPS DIED IN LABORATORY EXPLOSION. HOWEVER, HE IS STILL LISTED MISSING!

NOW THE **STAR QUEEN** IS PASSING **ASTEROID 9**, A BLEAK, UNINHABITED LITTLE WORLD WHIRLING IN THE **ASTEROID BELT** BETWEEN EARTH AND MARS...

THOSE SPACE LINERS WERE ATTACKED JUST ABOUT HERE! WONDER IF THE RAIDERS STRIKE FROM ASTEROID?

AND AS JIM PONDERES THE POSSIBILITIES...

THE **CARSON TWINS**! THEIR FATHER WAS INVENTING SOMETHING MYSTERIOUS! COULD IT BE THAT ALL THREE OF THEM ARE IN ON THIS DIABOLICAL BUSINESS TOGETHER?

OH, PHIL! I'M SO FRIGHTENED! DO YOU THINK WE CAN DO IT?

YES, BUT WE'RE NOT THERE YET! WE'LL BE CLOSER IN A FEW HOURS!

CLOSER TO WHAT?

THEN, IN ANOTHER INSTANT THEY DISAPPEARED INTO THE SHADOWS...

"CAN WE DO IT?" SHE ASKED HIM! DO WHAT? WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

THEN, SUDDENLY, FROM OUT OF THE SHADOWS...

WHA--?!

FANNING WAS TAKEN COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE, BUT HE HAD SENSE ENOUGH TO DUCK AS THE FLASH OF THE RAY-GUN BARELY MISSED HIS HEAD!

AND THEN...

UGH!
... MY HEAD!

AS FANNING SCRAMBLES TO HIS FEET, HE HEARS A DISTANT SOUND OF HISSING AIR, AND A TURMOIL OF SHOUTS!

HEY! WHAT'S HAPPENED? HEAR THAT AIR? SOMEBODY'S LEAVING THE SHIP-- OUT THE AIR LOCK!

ARE THE CARSON TWINS ESCAPING?

PHILIP CARSON TRIED TO KILL ME! HE--?

HE MUST HAVE WORKED THE AIR-LOCK WRONG! DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO GET HIS SPACE-HELMET ON!

GRUESOME, PATHETIC LITTLE SATELLITE! ASPHIXIATED IN THE AIRLESS VACUUM OF SPACE, HELD BY THE STAR QUEEN'S GRAVITY PULL, THE BODY IS SLOWLY CIRCLING THE SHIP!

LOOK! IT'S BRENDA CARSON! --THE ESCAPING AIR FROM THE ESCAPE-PORT: PULLED HER OUT TOO SOON!

WHERE'S PHILIP CARSON? SEARCH THE SHIP! FIND HIM!

MAYBE HE'S STILL IN THE ESCAPE-PORT! IT'S HISSING AGAIN!

THEN, SUDDENLY...

THERE HE GOES!-- HEADING FOR ASTEROID 9!

FANNING DOES AN EMERGENCY POWERED SPACE-SUIT, AND...

NOW IF ONLY I CAN KEEP HIM IN SIGHT...

BUT THE ESCAPING FIGURE IS ALREADY LOST IN THE STARFIELD! FANNING PLUNGES ON, AND AT LAST...

LUCK'S WITH ME! THERE HE GOES!

THERE IS ATMOSPHERE AND GRAVITY SIMILAR TO EARTH'S ON THE LITTLE WORLD! AS HE LANDS, FANNING TOSSES OFF HIS HELMET, AND...

NOW I'LL GET HIM!

WHY-- WHY, IT'S **BRENDA!**

JIM FANNING! OHH!

IT HAD BEEN **PHILIP CARSON** WHO HAD BEEN ASPHIXATED! THE GIRL HAD PLUNGED ON HERE, TRYING TO CARRY OUT THEIR DESPERATE PLAN!

WE-- WE THOUGHT FATHER WASN'T KILLED BY HIS LABORATORY EXPLOSION! --THAT HE WAS ABDUCTED, AND HIS INVENTION STOLEN!

THEN IT WASN'T **PHILIP** WHO ATTACKED ME ON THE **STAR QUEEN!**

BY WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING TO SPACE-LINERS, IT SEEMS FATHER'S INVENTION IS BEING OPERATED FROM **HERE!** HE WOULDN'T DO THINGS LIKE THAT, SO WE--

LOOK! THERE'S A LIGHT-GLOW OUT THERE!

THE CARSON TWINS HAD TAKEN THE **STAR QUEEN**, PLANNING TO COME TO ASTEROID 9 IN SEARCH OF THEIR FATHER!

THERE HE IS! FATHER!

BRENDA!

I-I HAD JUST PERFECTED MY LONG-RANGE, INVISIBLE-FLASH SPACE-GUN! I WAS GOING TO GIVE IT TO THE EARTH-GOVERNMENT! HE BLEW UP MY LABORATORY-- BROUGHT ME AND MY GUN HERE! HE CALLS HIMSELF THE **LONE WOLF!**

I'VE HEARD OF HIM!

HE'S BEEN ATTACKING SHIPS WITH MY INVISIBLE FLASH, SEARCHING FOR SOME BIG TREASURE! BUT NOW THE ELECTRONIC CHARGE IS EXHAUSTED! HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO RELOAD IT-- AND **I WON'T!** HE'S BEEN STARVING AND TORTURING ME!

THEN A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO, HE LEFT ME MAROONED HERE, AND WENT AWAY IN HIS LITTLE FLYER!

CAPTAIN WILKES HAS COME TO INVESTIGATE!

WHILE ON BOARD ALL HANDS ARE DEAD...
OHH! DEAD! ALL OF THEM DEAD! ASPHIXATED!

OUT IN SPACE SOMEONE ON BOARD MUST HAVE OPENED THE PORTS LETTING ALL THE SHIP'S AIR OUT!

LOOK! THE **STAR QUEEN**!



A DESPERATE, EVIL PERSON PROTECTED HIMSELF BY WEARING A SPACE-SUIT, AND HID ON BOARD, DETERMINED TO GET THE SHIP'S TREASURE! HE HAD NOW BROUGHT THE SHIP OF THE DEAD TO ASTEROID 9!

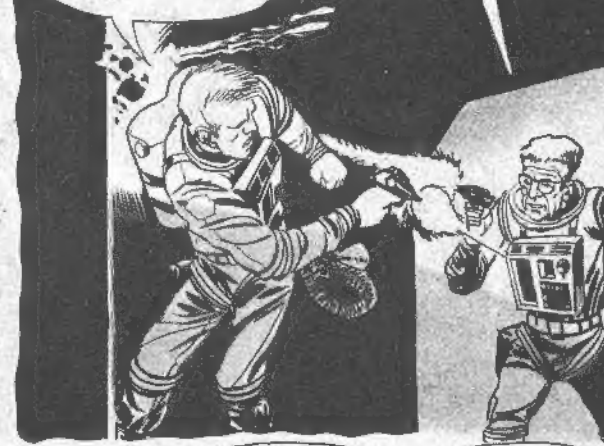
WITH THE INVISIBLE-FLASH SPACE-GUN USELESS, HE HAD TO DO IT THIS WAY!

OHH! LOOK OUT!



SO IT'S ARTHUR JEROME-- THE INTERPLANETARY TRAVELER! TOO BAD I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU WHEN YOU ATTACKED ME!

THIS TIME I'LL **FINISH** YOU!



A DESPERATE LIFE-OR DEATH STRUGGLE!



AS THEY FALL, ROLLING ON THE GROUND, JEROME BREAKS AWAY AND MAKES A RUN FOR IT!



I'LL NAVIGATE THE **STAR QUEEN** BACK TO EARTH!

AND IT'S MY CHANCE TO GIVE MY INVENTION TO THE EARTH GOVERNMENTS... NEVER TO BECOME THE INSTRUMENT OF A MADMAN!





